25¢

The Long Island FISHERMAN

FEBRUARY 7th, 1974, ISSUE No. 6

WILDLIFE IN TROUBLE

BY FRED GUARDINEER

AHMED, THE FAMOUS KENYA ELEPHANT, DIED JAN. 18 AFTER BEING WEAKENED BY A PROLONGED DROUGHT. CONSIDERED AFRICA'S MOST MAGNIFICENT WILD ANIMAL, HE WAS ESTIMATED AT 65-75 YEARS OF AGE AND HIS HUGE TUSKS WEIGH ABOUT 200 LBS. APIECE. AHMED WAS A MAJOR TOURIST ATTRACTION, WAS FEATURED ON T.V. AND WAS GUARDED AT ALL TIMES BY FIVE RANGERS. *ALL ELEPHANTS ARE ENDANGERED.*

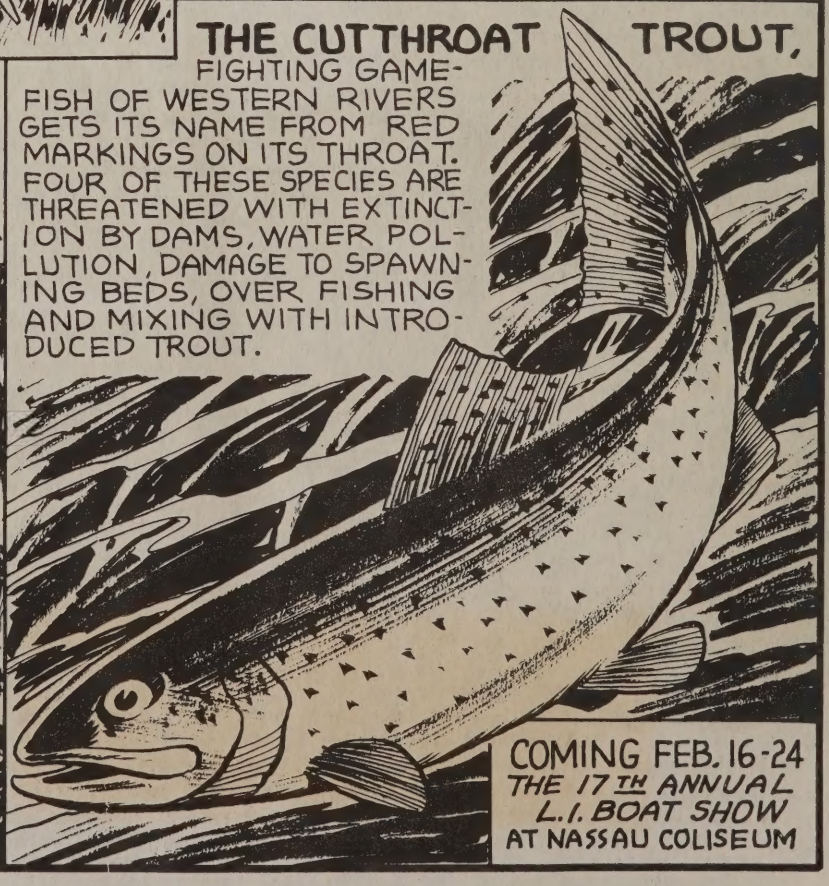
THE AMERICAN LARGEMOUTH BASS WAS INTRODUCED TO GUATAMALA'S LAKE ATITLAN WHERE IT CREATED ECOLOGICAL HAVOC FOR A RARE BIRD AND 50,000 MAYAN INDIANS.

THE BASS NEARLY EXTERMINATED LAKE FAUNA ON WHICH THE INDIANS AND THE WATERFOWL POC RELIED FOR FOOD.

THE POC. UNIQUE TO LAKE ATITLAN, NEITHER FLIES NOR MIGRATES AND ALMOST BECAME EXTINCT. SINCE THE DIE-OFF OF THE BASS, POC POPULATION IS NOW 210.

THE WHOOPING CRANE WORLD POPULATION NOW NUMBERS ABOUT 60 BIRDS. THERE ARE ONLY 21 IN CAPTIVITY.

THE CUTTHROAT TROUT, FIGHTING GAME-FISH OF WESTERN RIVERS GETS ITS NAME FROM RED MARKINGS ON ITS THROAT. FOUR OF THESE SPECIES ARE THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION BY DAMS, WATER POLLUTION, DAMAGE TO SPAWNING BEDS, OVER FISHING AND MIXING WITH INTRODUCED TROUT.



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Vol. 9 No. 6 February 7, 1974

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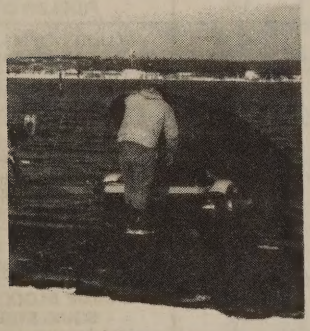

ABOUT THE COVER: The launching ramp on the Niantic. The tide had left a bit of the ramp clean, but snow tires were still needed. See "The Long, Long Season Ends" on page 6.

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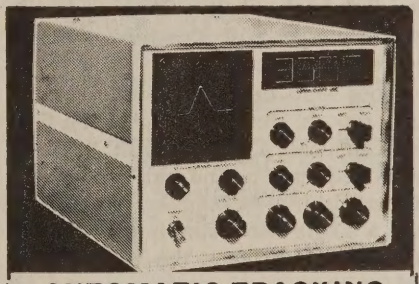

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Tying Your Own Basic Bottom Rigs

by Scott Simons

Part II: Selecting Hooks

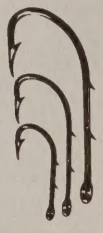
How many anglers walk into their local tackle shop and ask for "flounder hooks" rather than "No. 9 Chestertowns"? How many fishermen really know what size and style hook they require for a particular species?

As an aid to fishermen, the hook selection table on this page has been compiled by The Long Island Fisherman so that the angler will have a guide as to what size and style hooks should be purchased for the different species of fish he seeks.

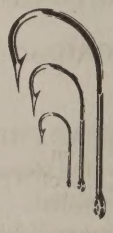
The fish hook is the last and most vital link in the chain of fishing tackle and technique. All the other fishing tackle and techniques serve one purpose —to deliver the hook to the fish's mouth: the hook catches the fish. You can locate a school of fish, have the correct equipment and bait, use all the proper fishing techniques, yet fail to land a single fish—simply because the hook you are using is the Wrong Style and/or size.

Fish have mouths of varying shapes and sizes, each necessitating a specific hook style. Through years of trial and error, certain hook patterns have been found to work particularly well with each species. These popular hook patterns are shown in Diagram #1. Using the wrong pattern and/or size for a particular species may result in many "missed" strikes.

It is very important to use hooks that have been made specially for salt water use. Nickel plated, bronzed or blued hooks are great for fresh water, but quickly rust and are weakened by corrosion when exposed to salt water. The best hook finishes for use in salt water are tinned, gold or cadmium plated, and stainless steel hooks. The actual metal of the hook may be forged or oval-shaped (rather than round) for extra strength. See the cross-sections in



hook selections



SPECIES	HOOK STYLES	SIZES	BEST BAITS
BLACKFISH	CARLISLE VIRGINIA	No. 8 thru 1/0	GREEN CRAB, CLAMS, FIDDLER CRAB
BLOWFISH	CARLISLE CHESTERTOWN	No. 12 thru 1/0	BLOOD WORMS, CLAMS, SQUID STRIPS
BLUEFISH	O'SHAUGHNESSY EAGLE CLAW	6/0 thru 8/0	BUTTERFISH, BUNKER, MACKEREL
COD	EAGLE CLAW SPROAT	6/0 thru 9/0	CLAM, SQUID STRIPS, CONCH, MACKEREL CHUNKS
FLOUNDER	CHESTERTOWN	No. 12 thru No. 6	BLOOD WORMS, CLAMS, MUSSELS
FLUKE	CARLISLE (Kirbed) SPROAT	2/0 thru 6/0	KILLIE, SQUID, SMELT, FLUKE BELLY STRIPS
KINGFISH	CHESTERTOWN EAGLE CLAW	No. 6 thru 1/0	SHRIMP, BLOODWORM, SQUID STRIPS
MACKEREL	O'SHAUGHNESSY TREBLE HOOK	1/0 thru 3/0 TREBLE	SQUID STRIPS, BAITFISH, SMALL JIGS & TUBES
MARLIN	SOBEY SALMON	8/0 or 9/0	RIGGED EELS & SQUID, WHOLE FISH
PORGY	SPROAT ABERDEEN	No. 6 thru 1/0	CLAM, BLOODWORM, SQUID STRIPS
POLLACK	SPROAT EAGLE CLAW	6/0 thru 8/0	SQUID STRIPS, CLAM, DIAMOND JIGS
SEABASS	SPROAT EAGLE CLAW	No. 4 thru 5/0	CLAM, SQUID STRIPS SHEDDER CRABS
SHARKS	SOBEY SEA DEMON	9/0 thru 12/0	BUNKER, SQUID, MACKEREL
SNOWSHOE	CHESTERTOWN ABERDEEN	No. 10 thru No. 6	CLAM, MUSSELS, BLOODWORM
STRIPED BASS	O'SHAUGHNESSY EAGLE CLAW	4/0 thru 6/0	SAND WORM, EELS, CLAM, BUNKER
SWORDFISH	SOBEY SEA DEMON	9/0 thru 14/0	RIGGED SQUID, MULLET MACKEREL
TUNA	TUNA SOBEY	7/0 thru 9/0	MACKEREL, MENHADEN, BUTTERFISH
WEAKFISH	SPROAT EAGLE CLAW	1/0 thru 3/0	SHRIMP, SAND WORM, SQUID STRIPS

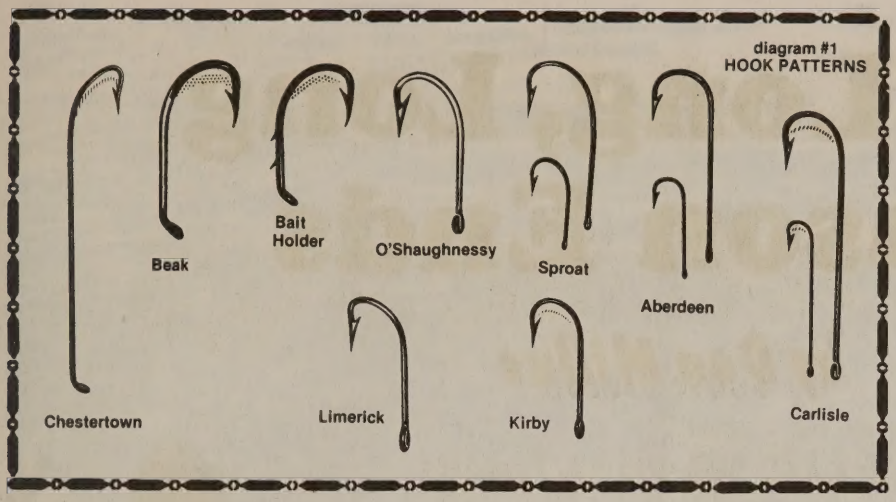
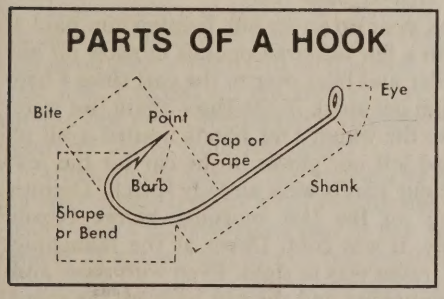


diagram A in the box.

The size of a fish's mouth will often dictate the size of your hook. A hook too large or too small may reduce your catch considerably. A good rule of thumb is "large fish can be caught on a small hook easier than small fish can be caught on a large hook." The hook selection chart gives you the range of hook sizes most commonly used for each species. Cut it out and paste to the inside top of your tackle box for quick reference. If you are ever in doubt to the correct size to use, tend to err on the small side.

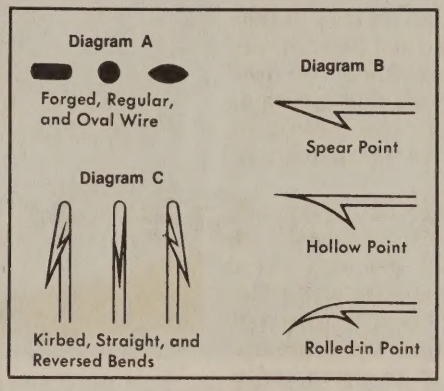
Although the fish hook is relatively simple in design, by varying the shape and dimensions of the parts it is possible to make many styles and variations of the basic design.

All hooks have four basic parts: the point, barb, shank and eye.



The *point* is the business end of the hook and should always be kept *very* sharp. These are three types of points: spear, hollow, and rolled-in. (See diagram B in box). The *barb* helps to keep the fish from throwing the hook out of his mouth. *Shanks* come both long and short; long shank for fish, such as fluke and flounder, that tend to swallow a bait or have sharp teeth, short shank for leader and hook-shy fish such as the tuna and albacore.

Hooks also have three basic dimensions: bite, gap, and bend. The



bite is the distance between the point and the lowest point of the curve of the hook. The *gap* is the distance between the point and the shank. The *bend* is the curved part of the hook, and there are three types: kirbed, straight, and reversed bend. (See diagram Cin box.)

Hooks are a relatively cheap part of the cost of a fishing trip, so buy only the best. Throw out old and rusty hooks and replace them with new ones. Gold-plated and stainless hooks are best for salt water, but cost a little more. Buy hooks made by a reputable manufacturer—cheap hooks have poor points and usually have not been properly tempered, causing the hook to break or bend under stress. The eye of the hook should be completely closed to prevent fraying of the leader.

Hooks may be purchased in quantities of five or six per package of each size. If you do enough fishing, it's far more economical to purchase your hooks in boxes of 100 at the larger tackle outlets. A box of 100 good quality hooks will cost less than three cents per hook.

This is the time of year to snell all the hooks you will need for the 1974 season. Next week, in Part Three of this series, you will learn some of the proper ways of snelling a hook.

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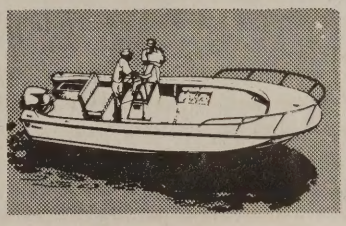

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The Long, Long Season Ends

by Don Millus

The striper sparkled in the cold, clear air, but it would have started to freeze if we hadn't returned it to the water immediately. It was our first spriped bass of the 1974 season or the last one of '73, depending on one's point of view. Although the sun was hardly above the trees on the hill that sloped down next to us on Connecticut's Niantic River, it was only three o'clock in the afternoon. But the calendar had read January 5th when I left my home in Milford that morning, and the thermometer, judging from the ice that formed on our guides even near noon, hadn't gotten much over 30 degrees.

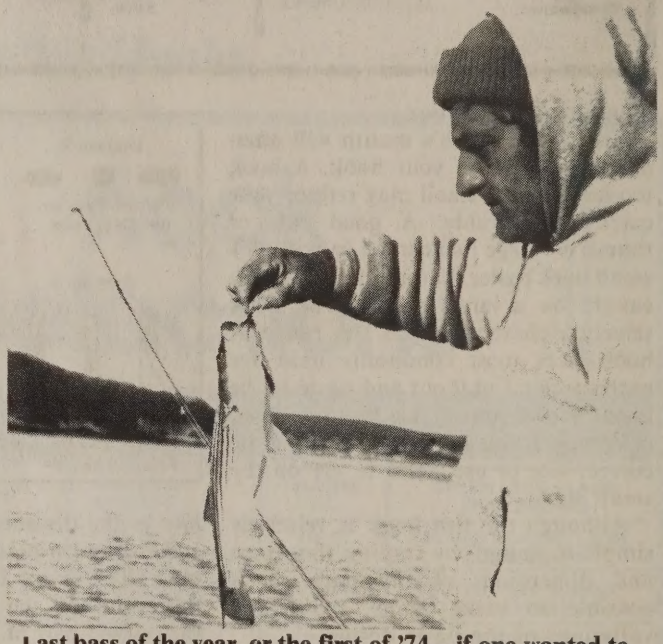
Of course, some fishermen will get stripers out of rivers in the northeast all winter long, especially in the vicinity of warm water discharges from power plants. But this was a no-gimmicks, artificial lure assault on the bass just seven weeks short of the re-emergence of the flounder from the mud for the early opening of spring fishing in late February.

For Hank DeGregorio it was the end of an eleven and a half month season that had started late last February with the first flounders of 1973, fished out of the Niantic's mud. When he told me on the phone that he would try for the bass the first weekend after New Year's Day, I knew I had met a dedicated fisherman. His brother, Frank, said that fish had been taken right up to Christmas — Hank had even experienced a great day of fishing during the beginning of the big ice storm that hit the northeast in December. His method was strictly using 3/0 or so Upper bucktails, with pork rind, cast from a drifting boat.

His persistence had gotten Hank quite a reputation. "If you go fishing with him, drive up in your own car to the river," I was warned. "He'll take you back to the dock if it gets too cold but he won't go home. For him a half day's fishing in the middle of winter means six hours out on the water." All this in January for bass?

Curiosity had gotten the better of me and on the eve of what we used to call Little Christmas we drove up the Connecticut Turnpike to exit 72, made the first left after heading towards the shore, and crossed the bridge to the Niantic River. The "river" is more of an extended bay, of course, and salt water species inhabit most of its reaches. Only a few miles inland, however, does it become an overgrown fresh water stream, yielding nice catches of brook trout. Hank had even taken a seven pound sea-run while bass fishing last fall.

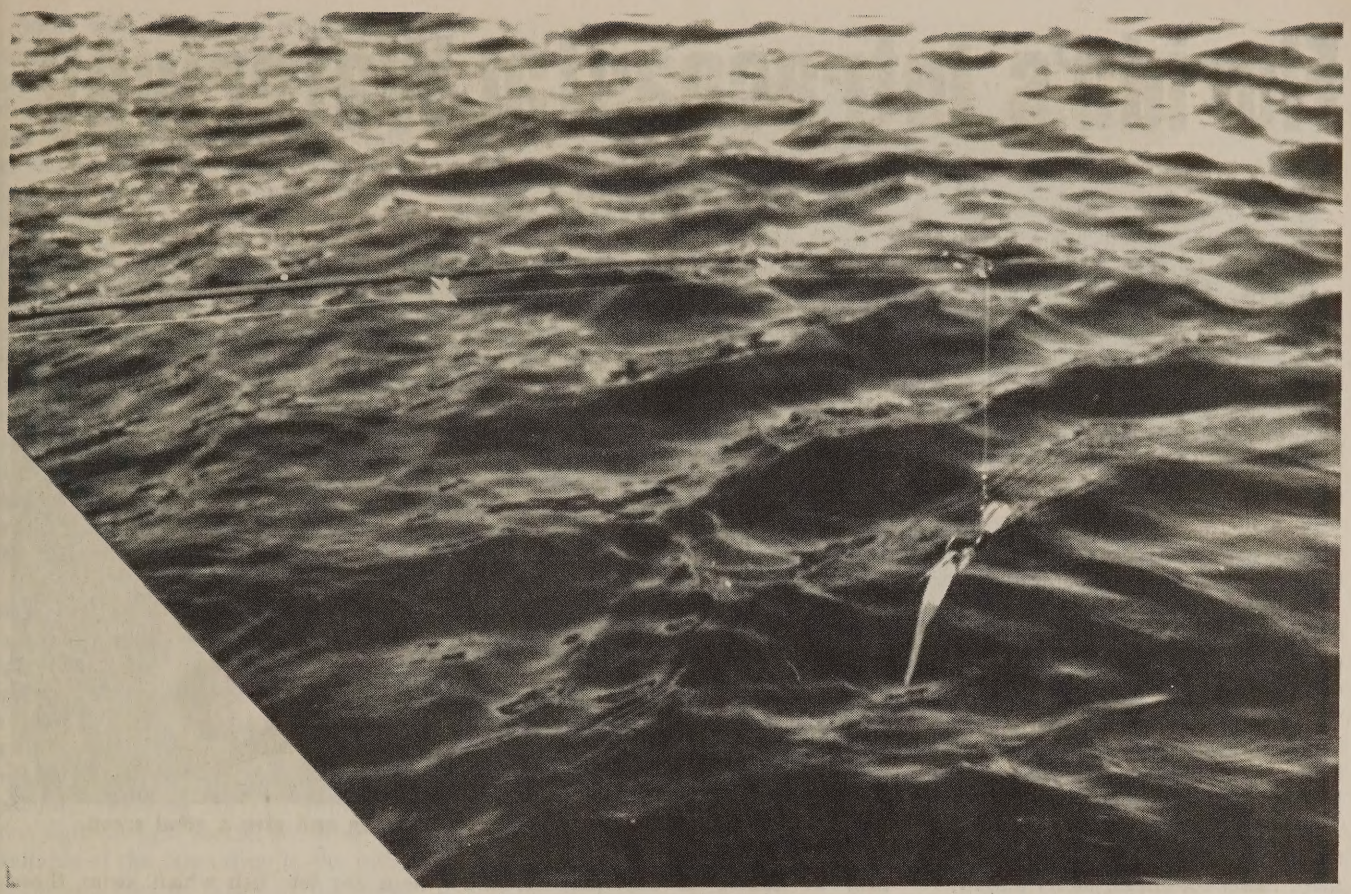
On our drive east from New Haven it seemed that every pond had a coat of ice, and the salt water marshes were frozen, too. Eight inches of snow had come down two days before, but the really deep freeze had just hit the night before. Still, Hank wasn't sure if we would be able to fish. "It isn't the cold, it's the ice. If we can get the boat out of the snow we'll be okay." I had four pairs of socks under my rubber deck boots, but they weren't insulated. I began to think I was underdressed. But who ever heard of snowshoes as equipment for a striped bass trip?



Last bass of the year, or the first of '74—if one wanted to be optimistic.

After pushing Hank's car up an icy hill, helping him haul a tarpaulin covered with a few hundred pounds of snow off his boat, and pulling trailer and boat over to the car, since I had no desire of letting him get stuck in the snow again, we were ready to head down to the water. Our hands needed a bit of thawing, first. We had left our gloves in the car for the few minutes of work, but our hands were already frozen. Despite a bright sun shining on the last morning before Nixon Daylight Saving Time, it was cold. Down at the launching ramp only one other trailer was in sight. Even with snow and ice we managed the launching and the run back up the ramp without too much pushing.

Since the tide was still quite high we cut right across the flats and headed up-river. On the lower tides boats have to stick very close to a well-marked but tortuous channel. The left fork of the river is the best bet for fall and winter fishing, and we headed past empty summer houses and snow covered docks along the western shore. The river was ours alone. The power boats of summer, the summer patriot fishermen, even the more persistent of late fall anglers, had all given way to my companion's devotion to his calling. The other boat from the ramp had apparently gone out after cod. We had the river to ourselves, but the ice had beaten us to the upper reaches. We had to start our casting a half-mile short of some of the spots that had produced until late in December.



Upperman bucktail with pork rind was the lure. Fish it slowly in cold waters.

The trees along the shore were still covered with snow, and an occasional, light breeze would send small clouds of flakes floating down to ice or water. Hank cut the motor and we drifted. Only the sound of the ice rippling and cracking from the boat's wake broke the silence of mid-morning. My guide showed me the most effective retrieve he had found, a slow motion accompanied by occasional jerking of the rod tip.

Hank prefers a two-piece spinning rod with medium action—no more then eight feet or so long—with a mid-sized spinning reel, a Penn 710 in this case, and seventeen pound test line. I rigged up my ancient Airex Vagabond with ten pound test and a freshwater "Wonderod" that had survived years of abuse from its owner.

Although the bass of late spring and early summer run up to sixty pounds, Hank's fall fishing had yielded a harvest of hundreds of fish averaging four or five pounds. He had taken one of 22 pounds but he pointed out that the run of 40 to 60 pound bass occurs in late spring and early summer. Live eels are cast by the regulars using manual pickups so that the line can be disengaged quickly, thus allowing the bass to run with a free line. Hank and his nephew, Pete, had taken a good number of big fish from this river in 1973 and one of their friends had taken a 60 pounder from the nearby bay.

But we were not thinking of big fish as we looked at the ice lying across the upper reaches of the Niantic. As the boat drifted slowly we began to cast. My rubber-coated gloves had not been left in the car this time and I was glad that I had adjusted to casting with them on. A kingfisher flashed blue-gray and silver along the shore, diving into an open space of water between ice and rocks and coming up with a spearing-sized fish. At least something was still swimming.

Our hopes were short-lived. We tried five drfifts on both sides of the river before lunch, but the suspicion seemed to creep in on us that the water had gotten too cold for the fish. The sun provided some slight measure of warmth and the wind was mercifully still: there would be few milder January days in the northeast. In the silence between the shores the beat of the wings of a pair of swans taking off echoed against the snowy banks of trees and rocks. Ducks in pairs and fours flew by or swam along feeding close to shore.One obviously wounded bird scrambled and flapped across the surface, only to dive as our boat got too close. We kept casting, Frank out of persistence, myself for fear of freezing. I kept wiggling my toes just to check for signs of life.

The tide was almost all the way out before one of us had a strike. My companion gently brought the undersized striper back to the boat. The fish darted away when Hank placed him back in the water, but ice formed on the boat where it had splashed. I was happy to see a fish, but no others followed. Hank rubbed a finger already cold from air on water. Some of the ice broken off by the swells from our craft had come loose from the main body and was drifting along with us in the wind. A few more stops and Hank finally gave up, a memorable event for that devoted angler.

We headed down the channel toward the first bridge, and back to the ramp. The outgoing tide had left little water on the flats. The sun had dropped beneath the western bank and the ice would be thicker tomorrow. A season on the river that had begun with February's flats, gone through weakfish, bass, snapper blues, and back to bass and flounder, had ended with a fifteen-inch striper. But a day of bass fishing had been snatched from winter, and we were that much closer to the opening of spring fishing. The long, long season was over, at least for a few weeks.

Florida's Intracoastal Waterway

by Don Vetter

The Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway is a continuous and connected system of sheltered inland channels for commercial and pleasure water traffic, extending 1391 miles between Trenton, New Jersey on the Delaware River, and Miami, Florida. It is the route taken by many Long Island boatmen whose craft are too large to permit trailering, but who wish to avoid the rigors of an offshore voyage of such proportions, to reach the state of Florida.

The Florida section of the Waterway commences at Fernandina Beach and extends over 370 miles to Miami. The dredged channel is 125 feet in width, with a mean low water depth of 12 feet in the upper reaches and 10 feet from Fort Pierce to Miami. It passes through lagoons several miles wide in some areas, follows the course of natural rivers and creeks in others, and is a mere canal for much of its length.

Sixty four separate bridges span its waters, and docking facilities are available to the boating public at such places as Fernandina, Mayport, Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Daytona Beach, New Smyrna, Titusville, Cocoa, Eau Gallie, Melbourne, Vero Beach, Fort Pierce, Stuart, Jupiter, West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Port Everglades, Hollywood Beach, Miami and Miami Beach.

Although originally conceived in 1874, real impetus for development of the Waterway to its present state was lacking until world war II, when fearful losses inflicted upon coastwise shipping by German U-Boats gave vivid evidence for the need for an alternative route.

Aside from its prominance as a north-south route, the Waterway provides some of the most outstanding fishing in the state. Although I touched lightly on the Banana River/Indian River section, and the fine seatrout and redfish action it provides, the Waterway was passed over in the main in the seven part series on Florida fishing for vacationing Long Islanders which I wrote for L.I.F. last winter. That was a rather glaring omission, considering that the Waterway provides fishing as rich and varied as you are likely to encounter down there; almost every species of sport fish native to Florida may be found in one part of the Waterway or another—depending on the location and the season of the year.

Jack crevalle are always willing to hit a jig and give a good scrap.

For purposes of clarity, it simplifies matters to divide the Waterway into three distinct zones and discuss the fishing available to the angler in each during the winter months. The first region would be the upper, roughly defined as extending from Fernandina to Mosquito Lagoon, north of Titusville. The second would be the central or Indian River section, running from Titusville to the Stuart/St. Lucie River area. The third or lower zone would run from Stuart south to the Waterway's terminus at Miami.

While some fish, such as the ubiquitous jack crevalle, may be found ready to grab a bait or lure almost anywhere along the Waterway in winter, most gamesters are pretty much confined to their respective areas in the cold months. On the subject of jack crevalle, these fish which the natives regard as trash are tremendous fighters and will take a bucktail jig or plug with abandon. Their size-range in the inland waters is usually 3 to 5 pounds, with some going as large as 15.

Since variety is the keynote in fishing the Waterway, a general knowledge of Florida lures, baits and tackle comes in handy. The big, live shrimp is the universal Florida bait, and rightly so, as there are few fish which swim these waters that would refuse such a tempting morsel. Hooked under the carapace with a 1/0 or 2/0 beak-type hook, shrimp will serve as bait for just about everything that swims in the Waterway.

Though tackle type and weight will vary somewhat with the species of fish sought, a medium-action salt water spinning rod of about 7½ or 8 feet in length, with matching reel spooling 15 pound test mono, makes a good compromise as an all around outfit. A lighter, one-handed spinning outfit with 6 pound mono and a boat rod with 30 pound line and conventional reel would, together with the aforementioned rig, equip you for any fish available in the Waterway, from the smallest grunts to the biggest black drum.

Bucktail and nylon jigs in yellow, pink or white are the locals' favorite lures and, while they produce well, a good selection of plugs and metal lures also comes in handy. Metal lures such as Hopkin's and Kastmaster work for many Florida fish, but are often difficult to obtain in the local tackle shops; the wise angler will take a goodly supply down with him. Plastic tube eels such as Tri-Fin, Lupo and Alou are worth having along, particularly those with a silvery mylar body beneath the plastic.

Short wire traces are required for many of the more toothy denizens of these southern waters, though a length of 50 pound test mono shock leader may be made to serve, in many cases, for those who dislike going to the wire. Egg-type sinkers for bottom fishing, floats for topwater baiting, and a good selection of hooks and barrel swivels complete the angler's bag.

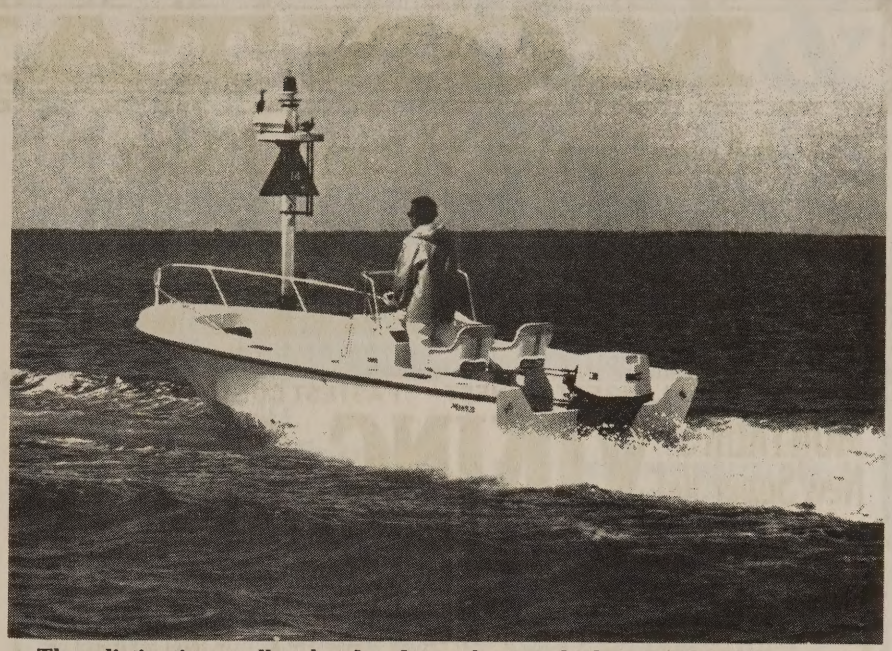
In the northern zone, and throughout much of the waterway, bluefish are on the prod down here in the winter, particularly in the vicinity of cuts and inlets, and may be taken with the same techniques we use back home. The big difference is in the average size of the fish; we would refer to them as harbor or snapper blues on the Island, as they usually run in the 1½ to 3 pound range.

The Indian River region produces some good action with channel bass, locally termed redfish. These near-sighted "poor man's bonefish" will hit jigs, plugs or shrimp, provided the bait is cast to within their rather limited range of vision. They run to 5 or 6 pounds in weight, with an exceptional specimen reaching 20, and provide a good fight on light tackle. Sea-trout are available at the same time in the same region and may be taken by the same methods. They resemble our northern weakfish, to which they are closely related, in both appearance and size range.

From the Indian River region southwards to the Waterway's end, grunts of many types (french, blue-striped, pigfish, white, etc.) may be readily taken around docks and banks with shrimp or cut bait. These colorful little panfish are fun to catch and make fine eating. In the southernmost zone, blue runners are to be found in the swifter water around cuts and inlets. This member of the jack family is best known locally for its employment as a live bait for larger gamefish, but is quite a fighter in his own right on light tackle and will greedily hit a nylon or bucktail jig. In the same area, though not plentiful, a flatfish called "flounder" in Florida is to be found. These bottom dwellers are almost identical to our fluke in appearance, though they are in fact a subspecies which but rarely reaches more than 1½ pounds in weight. They are amenable to the same tactics which take fluke.

Mangrove snappers are among the most wary of saltwater fish and may be taken around docks, bridge pilings and those distinctive, yellow-bordered channel markers which define the water-

(*Continued on page 10.*)



The distinctive, yellow-bordered markers, which are the Waterway's trademark, also produce good mangrove snapper action.

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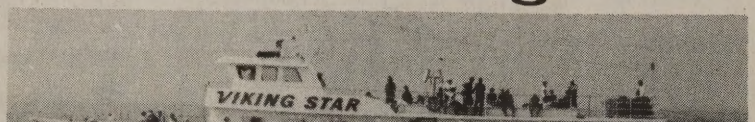

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(*Continued from page 9.*)

way. Live shrimp are almost a must for these tasty scrappers, which average 1½ to 3 pounds in weight, though they may take a carefully worked jig at times. I have found shad darts to work about as well as any artificial bail for the species. A wire trace is a necessity, for mangrove snappers have teeth sharp enough to sever the heaviest mono; teeth they are not averse to using in or out of the water, as many a careless angler has found out to his sorrow.

Grouper are also available in the lower reaches of the Waterway. Though not as large as those found on offshore reefs and in the waters surrounding the Keys, they may run to the 10 pound class in some spots, and will take a large, live shrimp, live baitfish, cut bait or even a jig—if fished close enough to the bottom.

Though far from peak in the winter months (the best action is in April and May), snook may be taken in some areas of the southernmost zone of the Waterway. These fine gamefish resemble our striped bass in feeding habits, being primarily night feeders and frequenting the waters around bridges as well as the cuts and inlets. Plugs generally work best among the

(Continued on page 14.)

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South Shore Report

SOUTH SHORE REPORTS

The good fishing to be had at Montauk continues to be very good. Codfish in the 4 to 7 pound range are being caught in good quantities with the pool winners ranging between 30 to 57 pounds according to Capt. Paul Forsberg of the Viking Star. Paul said on one day this past week they had over 1200 cod and blackfish along with loads of uncounted mackerel.

Capt. Dick Rade of the Marlin III has had good catches of cod, pollack and blackfish. The runs from the dock are reasonably short as he is fishing in and around Block Island.

The Peconic Queen has been fishing Block Island and the Cartwright Grounds for catches that are very satisfying for everyone. The usual winter fare of cod, pollack and blacks with mackerel as an extra. The Peconic Queen has had codfish up to 55 pounds on Monday and continued that way up until the weekend when they got blown out Sunday.

Some of the Montauk boats have gasoline available right at the docks. You can park your car and leave orders to fill it up. When you get back from fishing your tank is filled and you are ready to go home.

Bob Cole of Moriches Bait & Tackle told me he has been selling clam bait but he knows of no fishing activity personally. Going down to the shore of Moriches Bay a quick scan with the binoculars showed one boat on one day and several boats another day out on the bay. The good day of the previous week would induce some fishermen to try for flounders.

The open fishing boats at Captree have been running every day since the beginning of the year. This is because of the mild weather which did not allow the bay to freeze over. At present there are at least three boats running which are Capt. Ben Litwin, Capt. Scotty and Speedy V. When Capt. Scotty was called for a fishing report he most courteously mentioned that the other two boats did very well this past week.

N.Y. Bight Report

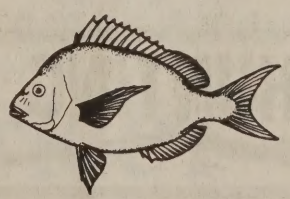
N.Y. BIGHT

According to Capt. Kessinger of the Starstream, the fishing has been spotty. The open bottom is not producing any fair catches while the weekend weather left a lot to be desired.

Capt. Al fished the Cholera and Angler Banks and had fair fishing. By being persistent a fair catch can be had. The close in fishing has been a great fuel saver.

Due to the mild winter we are having, flounders are being caught in the Island Park area. Capt. Clemm of the Commodore said he will try for these flounders in the coming week.

Capt. Fred Ardolino of the Amberjack IV has had to move around to come up with decent catches. Even with this scouting around fair catches have been had. Staying at the rail and actively fishing means the difference between coming home with a good catch and just going out for fresh air. The captains can only bring you to where the fish are, it is up to the fishermen to man the rails and catch them.



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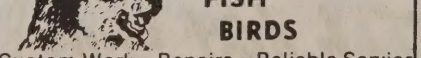

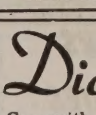

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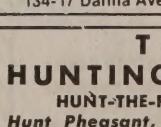

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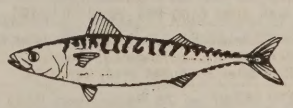

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FISHING TACKLE

SALT WATER FISHING COURSE: Squadron Anglers Fishing Club is presenting its sixth annual fishing course beginning Wednesday, March 6, 1974, 7:30 p.m. for six consecutive Wednesday evenings. Being held at Mempham High School - room #128 - Camp Ave., North Bellmore. Fee $10.00. Curriculum will cover local salt waters, delving into bottom, bay, surf and ocean fishing - all species of bay and ocean fish will be covered along with proper equipment and its use. For additional information contact Bill Sorger (516) SU1-2519.

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(*Continued from page 10.*)

artificials for snook, though they can be taken with a wide variety of methods.

In the late winter, usually around the end of February in the southern zone and progressively later further north, black drum make their presence felt in the waterway. Though they rank low as an eating fish, these bottom dwellers are fine sport and are among the largest of fish you are likely to encounter here in the winter, going to 40 pounds or more. Bait only is the rule for drum; they are unimpressed by lures.

If I have left out anyone's favorite (such as that champion of bait-stealers, the sheepshead, perhaps? I apologize, but any article could barely scratch the surface regarding fish and fishing in Florida's Intracoastal Waterway: books could be written on the subject and still leave much unsaid. Enough if a few more vacationing Long Islanders can be convinced that the Waterway is something to fish in as well as cruise on.

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The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

Thurs.	5:25		5:55	**12:10**
Fri.	6:20	**12:40**	6:55	**1:10**
Sat.	7:25	**1:35**	7:45	**2:05**
Sun.	8:20	**2:30**	8:40	**2:55**
Mon.	9:10	**3:25**	9:35	**3:50**
Tues.	10:05	**4:15**	10:25	**4:40**
Weds.	10:55	**5:10**	11:20	**5:35**
Thurs.	11:50	**6:05**		**6:30**

TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
THURSDAY	8:48	9:17	10:15	10:44	12:13			12:17
FRIDAY	9:36	10:05	11:06	11:33	1:02	1:21	12:43	1:05
SATURDAY	10:23	10:55	11:57		1:47	2:08	1:31	1:54
SUNDAY	11:11	11:44	12:25	12:47	2:35	2:55	2:18	2:43
MONDAY	12:00		1:19	1:43	3:20	3:46	3:07	3:32
TUESDAY	12:33	12:49	2:11	2:38	4:13	4:42	3:57	4:23
WEDNESDAY	1:23	1:38	3:10	3:39	5:09	5:55	4:50	5:21
THURSDAY	2:15	2:32	4:11	4:44	6:21	7:05	5:46	6:21

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
(Inlet.Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0 00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

PHASES OF THE MOON

1/31	1/3	1/10	1/16
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

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